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Robert T. Collier . . . But Not This One

MARCH 18, 2016 11:02 PM \ 1 COMMENT \ BY COLLIERHERITAGE \ EDIT



Grave of Robert Terrell Collier, Glenwood Cemetery, Upshur County, Texas

This is the marker of the grave of Robert Terrell Collier, grandson of Vines Collier, son of Williamson Collier, and my great-great grandfather. In the 1870s Robert Terrell loaded his family into a covered wagon and left Upson County, Georgia for Texas. He settled in East Texas, an area not unlike his

native Georgia. Although he had cousins who had already moved to Texas, there is no evidence they ever made contact.

Records of Confederate soldiers from Georgia showed that Robert T. Collier enlisted with a probable cousin, Green Collier, in the Woodson Guards, Company I, 32nd Georgia Regiment. The unit formed at Thomaston, in Upson County. The same records state the same Robert T. Collier died of the measles while on duty in Savannah. I shrugged this off as typical of military records of that period that are often erroneous or incomplete. Seeking to investigate this discrepancy, I applied to the National Archives for the military service records of Robert Terrell Collier. The reply came back that no records of Robert Terrell Collier could be found. However, the records of Robert Thomas Collier of Upson County Georgia were located.

Robert Thomas, son of Robert Marshall Collier, and Robert Terrell were first cousins once removed. Robert Thomas was born in 1837, and Robert Terrell was born in 1836. Both were from Upson County, Georgia. It's easy to see the cause of the confusion when looking back over 150 years.

I have yet to locate evidence of Robert Terrell's military service. In that part of the South where over 25 descendants of Vines Collier wore Confederate gray, it is almost impossible to believe Robert Terrell did not serve. As noted above, military records for the period are poor.

Following are the records provided by the National Archives. They include a letter from Sarah E. (Stafford) Collier, widow of Robert Thomas, in which she seeks her dead husband's compensation. It is accompanied by a notarized statement from Robert Marshall Collier attesting to the accuracy of Sarah's claim. See the June 6, 2015 post "Robert Marshall Collier's Papers" for more on Robert Thomas Collier.

Collier, R. J.
Co. I, 32 Georgia Infantry.
(Confederate.)

Private *Private*

CARD NUMBERS

166075165	1
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Number of actual cards here *0*

Number of personal papers here *0*

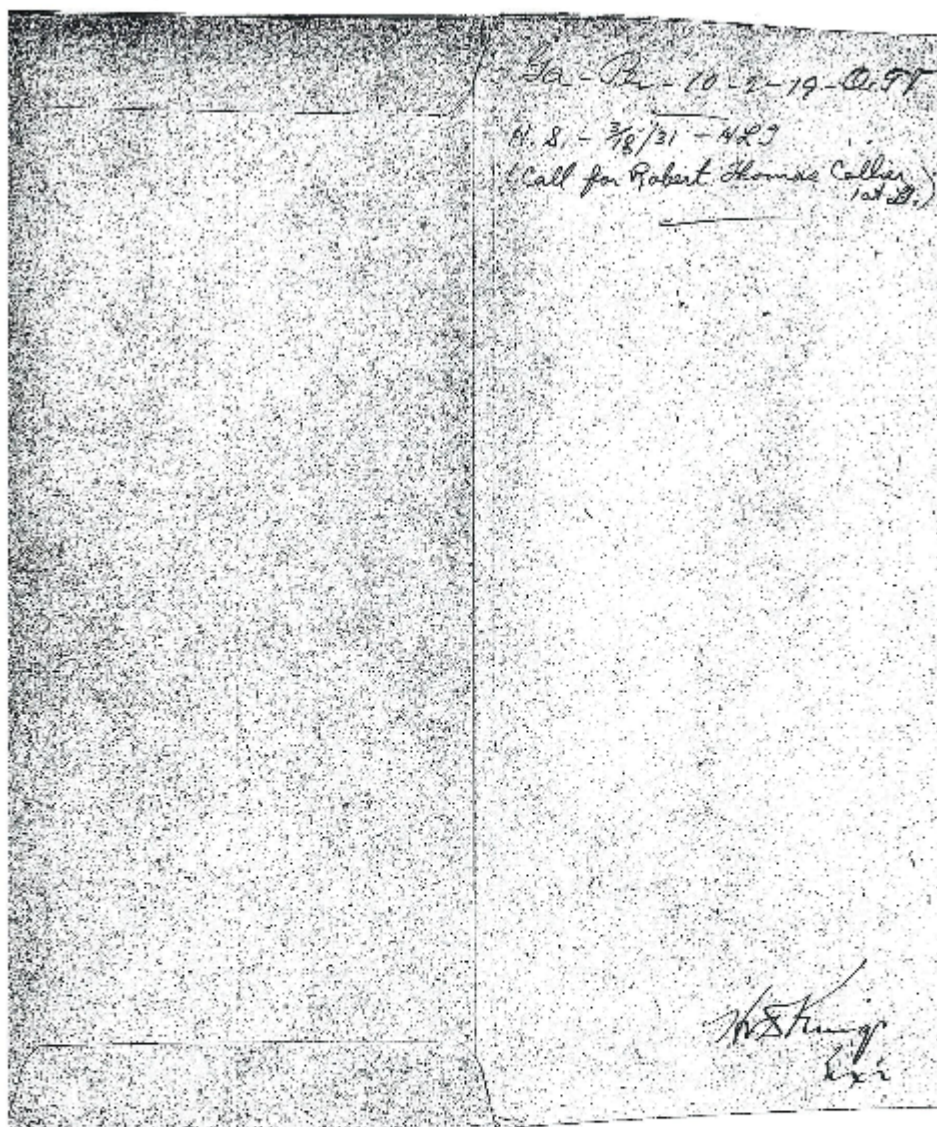
Book Mass: _____

See also: _____

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State of Georgia }
 Pike County } on this the 14th day of January 1863 Personally
 appeared before me the undersigned a Justice of the Peace in
 and for the County aforesaid Sarah E Collier who after being
 sworn according to law deposes and says that she is the widow of
 Robert I Collier deceased who was a private in Company Lewis's
 Company 32nd Regiment of Georgia Volunteers Commanded by
 Colonel G P Harrison in the service of the Confederate States in
 the present war with the United States that the said Robert
 I Collier entered the service at Thomaston in Upson County
 and State of Georgia on or about the 5th day of May 1862
 and died at Savannah Georgia from sickness on or about the
 29th day of June 1862 leaving dependent his widow surviving
 him that dependent makes this deposition for the purpose of
 obtaining from the Government of the Confederate States whatever
 may have been due the said Robert I Collier at the time of his
 death for pay bounty or other allowances for his services as aforesaid
 sworn to and subscribed before me this the 14th day of January 1863 } Sarah E Collier

J W Turner J. P.
 and on the same day and year aforesaid also appeared before me,
 a Justice of the Peace as aforesaid Robert H Collier who is well
 known to me and whom I hereby certify to be a person of veracity
 and credibility who having been by me duly sworn says on oath
 that he is well acquainted with Sarah E Collier the claimant
 and also well knew for two years Robert I Collier the deceased
 soldier herein mentioned and that the statements made under
 oath by said Sarah E Collier claimant as to her relationship
 to said deceased soldier is true and correct in every particular
 to the best of his knowledge and belief and that he the said
 deponent is wholly disinterested. — sworn to and subscribed
 before me this January 14th 1863 } R H Collier
 J W Turner J. P.

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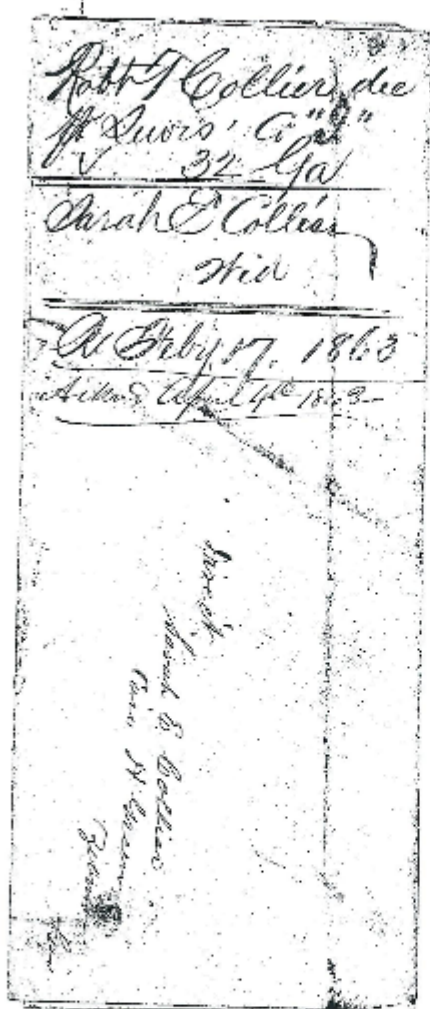
State of Georgia, I hereby certify that Thomas H. Lawrence
 of the County of the Boardman of us - when the foregoing
 affidavit of Charles E. Lottin and N. M. Lottin appears to have
 been by mistake and when genuine official signature is not noted
 it was at the time of making and saying the same
 as justice of the peace - and for the County and State of Georgia and
 duty Commissioner and Secy - and to all who appear
 and as such full faith and credit is and ought to be
 given as made in County of Boardman in the State

In testimony whereof I have hereunto set my
 hand and affixed the seal of the Superior Court
 of the County of Boardman this 17th
 day of January, 1863
 Charles H. Reddick
 Clerk of the Superior Court of the County of Boardman

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(CONFIDENTIAL)	
B	32
Robert T. Collier	
Lt. Lewis Co. 32 Regt	
Name appears on a	
Register	
of Office of Deceased Officers and Soldiers from Georgia which were filed for settlement in the Office of the Confederate States Auditor for the War Department.	
By whom presented <i>Robert T. Collier, etc.</i>	
When filed	Feb 17, 1863
Where born	
Where died	
Comptroller	
When reported to	186
When returned	185
Number of settlements	
Certificates	
Report	
Amount found due	
By whom paid	
No. of Payments' Settlements	
Abstract and No. of Voucher	
Confed. Arch., Chap. 10; File No. 25, page 2	
(187)	328
S. B. Webb	
Original	

(CONFIDENTIAL)	
le	32
R. T. Collier	
Lt. Col. (37 Regt) (Harrison's)	
Georgia Infantry	
Appears on a	
Bounty Pay and Receipt Roll	
of the organization named above.	
Roll dated	Not dated
186	
Enlisted	
When	May 7, 1862
Where	Lawrenceville
By whom	Col. H. B. Harrison
Period	1862
Bounty	\$82.00
Signed to	R. T. Collier
Remarks	
*Originals referring to this roll deposited Georgia Arch.	
Book made	
(187)	328
S. B. Webb	
Original	

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One Thought on “Robert T. Collier . . . But Not This One”



Betty Collier King

on [January 24, 2019 at 2:25 pm](#) said:

[Edit](#)

I am the great, great granddaughter of Henry Collier, who was born about 1776 in SC and died in Dooly County, GA in 1840. He was the father of John Collier who was born about 1824, in Ga and died in 1896 in Crewsville, Ga in 1896. I have been researching for about 30 years (with cousins) to try to find Henry's ancestors, but have been unsuccessful. Any help would be gratefully appreciated.

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